

July

Magic Lantern Society

NEWS 2018



LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

Another Way to Celebrate Summer!

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Unknown Lantern

From Garry Knapp

designbyg@live.com

Seeing as i've just purchased my 1st magic lantern, this seems like a good spot to find things like restoration techniques or parts...? I know little about the unit...it's not here yet. (going to pickup this weekend. I know its huge...about 3.5ft long. will take 2 guys to carry. Ran on gas (all the burner nozzles are still original) Has a very heavy cast iron base. Entire unit stands about 20" tall.

From David Evans

Hi Garry

It certainly is beyond a normal magic lantern!

The fact that it is mounted on a rail suggests that it needs exceptional rigidity. It has been made up for some specific purpose, but what that would be I am not sure. It has been adapted from several magic lantern and other parts, but going by what you have mentioned and what can be seen, my guess is along the lines of the following:

1. I do not see gas nozzles. I do see an electric arc lamp with two carbon rods at right-angles. You would need to connect these to 115v mains with a variable resistance in series and try not to electrocute yourself. Start with the carbon rods briefly touching and quickly back them off to draw an arc that can be maintained. Bear in mind the light will be so intense that you will probably be blinded unless wearing suitable protective eyewear. Also extreme UV emission.

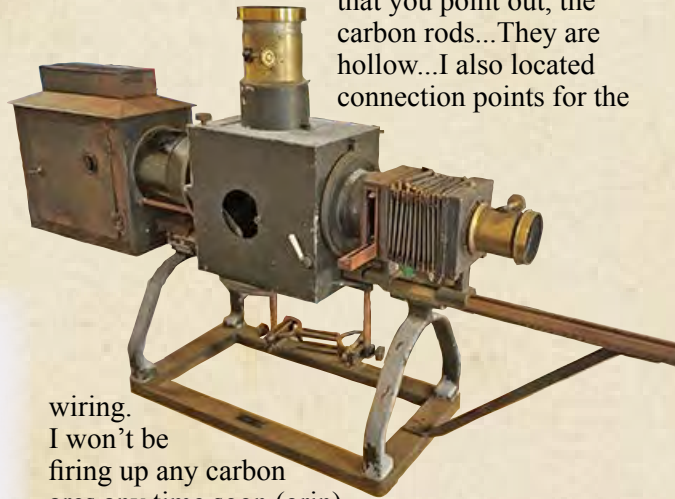
more on page 3

Hi David

Thanks for getting back to me so soon!

Thanks also for all the great input...I can see now

that you point out, the carbon rods...They are hollow...I also located connection points for the



wiring.

I won't be firing up any carbon arcs any time soon (grin)

I will convert it to halogen. all the orientation controls work fine so I will make a bulb mount to fit where the carbon rod is now.

After I read your email, I took a flashlight and shone it out of the lamp house. When the mirror is up, the light reflects and hits right in the middle of the round platform at the bottom of that box. There is some serious glass between the lamp and the box. I think restoring this will not present any serious problems, however I would ask you if you know of anyone fabricating replacement parts for vintage things like this. The slide carriage rail on this (mahogany) is seriously damaged and needs to be replicated. I have a shop, but if you know of someone already doing this sort of thing... replacement with an original is a good thing too...I imagine these were used/damaged/lost quite a bit...



Thank you for replying. I'm not sure what I have here, now that I've got it here and have had a good look at it.

I know little about these. Its a magic lantern, that I know...but this arrangement seems to take that to some other level.

The first obvious thing would be this box between the lamp and the lens. This has a mirror controlled by the white handle.

On top is another lens (?) and on the bottom is a plate that can be dropped and is on springs....

I intend to restore this unit top to bottom. Upon initial inspection, I have not found any dates of mfg, but there is a stamp 'patented 1907' on the lamp collar.

From what I can tell, this is all original. No modifications.

Unknown Lantern continued

2. The lamp house shines its light into the box in front of this. For lantern slides, have the mirror flat and out of the way, and you should be able to project slides.

3. Operate the white lever and raise the mirror to 45 degrees. Insert an object (slide, water tank, something else) somewhere in the central box (can't see exactly where from the pictures) and you should get an image of it on the ceiling.

There may once have been a prism above the top-facing lens that would re-direct the image forwards toward the screen. This is basically an overhead projector.

4. It looks quite possible that the central box may have been a lamp house in its own right at one time, in which case a chimney would be where the top facing lens now is and the rear lamp house not there at all.

5. You need a chimney for the rear lamp house. Carbon arc lamps emit toxic fumes, so you need an extraction system to route them to outside air.

I think I'd convert it to halogen before trying to operate it!

The date of 1907 would probably be about right.



I don't off-hand know of anyone fabricating parts (chimneys would be useful!) but if we put this in our next E-Publication, it may be that a member knows the answer.

Can't think of anything else right now, but it is possible that one of our members may have ideas.

Regards

David Evans

Magic Lantern Video from National Film & Sound Archive, Australia

From David Donaldson

I just came across this video on Youtube,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1XkqtzLfKo>
best -David



CHROMATROPE AT MT STROMLO

CHROMATROPE AT MT STROMLO

Chromatope at Mt Stromlo



<https://martynjolly.com/2018/04/24/chromatope-at-mt-stromlo/>

Watch a performance of a 130 year old chromatrope under the stars at Mt Stromlo Observatory. April 24, 2018 by martynjolly.

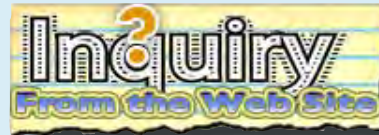
also check-out



<https://olh.openlibhums.org/articles/10.16995/olh.275/>

Heritage in the Limelight, a Collection in Progress: Uncovering, Connecting, Researching and Animating Australia's Magic Lantern Past

Authors: Martyn Jolly, Elisa deCourcy



From Steve Woolf

stevewoolf@q.com

I have bought a toy magic lantern made by Wiener & Flachbrenner.

I have not been able to determine when they were in business, or specifically when my lantern was made. I'm hoping you will be able to shed some light (no pun) on this question. I can't see how to upload an image, so here's a link to the item.

Thanks in advance for your help and taking the time.

Best,
Steve

AHA! There's a small oval medallion on the front of the kerosene reservoir with an "E P." Must stand for Ernst Plank.

Thanks for that good info David. I sort of suspected it might be a 19th century lantern.

- Steve

Magic Lantern Manufacture Date

From David Evans

Dear Steve

Thank you for your enquiry regarding your magic lantern, and the link to its picture.

The terms Wiener Flachbrenner will be on the wick adjusting knob on the oil lamp. It means Vienna flat burner, and describes the type of wick, the design originating in Vienna. Many oil lamps have that on the knob.



The lantern was probably made by Ernst Plank of Nuremberg, Germany, though other makers, such as Bing, made similar lanterns. It dates from around 1880-90 or thereabouts. It is missing its chimney.

It seems that many people who put things on eBay know nothing about them!

Good! Yes, that confirms it. Thank you for that. You will find plenty about Ernst Plank with a Google search.

David Evans



Slides Available

From: Hal King

hek2000@att.net

I inherited several hundreds J.Levy & Cie., Suc.rs de Ferrier & Soulier slides of Europe and Middle East from late 1800's. I understand their value is as a collectible and would be willing to donate or provide to any institution that would be interested to adding to a collection.

Any suggestions would be welcome, I hate to throw them away and or go to effort to try and sell. Thanks

Did a little inventory and hope this info helps:

156 J.Levy & Cie., Suc.rs de Ferrier & Soulier in the wooden boxes, all fairly consistent very good to excellent condition In addition there were 3 color slides from J Levy & Cie, very good condition as you can see in picture
3 probably J Levy & Cie but with a slightly different black border / label
2 from Excelsior Lantern (moon)

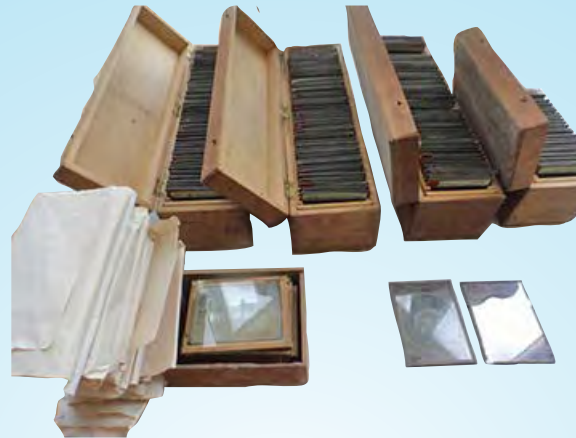
And probably 50 +/- unmarked, unlabeled slides with a probably white paper border in poor condition (in picture wrapped in paper)
Total 200 +/-counting J Levy in boxes and the ones with white border wrapped in paper that are in poorer condition.

As far as subjects:

20-30 +/- of museum statues

40-50 +/- of Paris buildings and city, maybe a few other cities. If someone knew about French architecture I am sure they could date the scenes.

40-50 +/- of mountains and glaciers French alps.
Would be interesting to compare glaciers to modern pictures.



Few middle east, Palestine, Jerusalem, statues maybe Syria or Iraq
Few miscellaneous landscapes, houses, rural scenes

Thanks again, hopefully there is value to some in these items. My objective is just to find them a home.

Hal



From David Evans

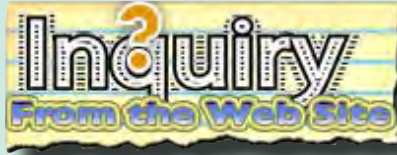
Hello Hal

Could you possibly send me a few pictures of them, so we can get an idea of the subject matter?

J Levy & Cie were quite prolific slide manufacturers and sellers in France, and all the ones I have seen have been of high quality. Their value is, as you say, more as social history and as collectibles. They are most probably in French format, which is basically the same as the American one - 4" x 3 1/4". We could add them to our next monthly E-Publication, so that any members interested could contact you about them.

Thank you for contacting us.

Regards
David Evans



The Bible Illustrated by Gustav Dore

From Djalma Correa

correadjalma@ig.com.br

I have a projector and a collection of glass of the bible 140 edited for E,Mazo Paris. I need informations about the bible illustrations reproduction autorisee Maison Alfred Mame et Fils,a tours.

From David Evans

Hello Djalma

Maison Alfred Mame was basically a book publisher and printer - see below. Amongst their publications was a bible illustrated by Gustav Doré, which they no doubt copyrighted, so to use the same illustrations on lantern slides their permission would have been needed. E Mazo was a prolific maker of magic lanterns and slides, so were most probably the slide makers.

Alfred-Henry-Armand Mame (b. at Tours, 17 August 1811 ; d. at Tours, 12 April 1893) was a French printer and publisher.

Paul Mame, 1833-1903.

Mame, publishers

The founder of the Mame firm, Charles Mame, printed two newspapers at Angers in the last quarter of the eighteenth century; General Hoche had at one time hoped to marry his daughter. His eldest son, bookseller and publisher in Paris, under the First Empire,

edited Chateaubriand's famous opusculé, "Buonaparte et les Bourbons", also Madame de Staël's works; and the persecutions directed against these books by the Napoleonic police caused the financial ruin of the editor. But the third son, Amand Mame, came to Tours and founded there a firm which, under the management of Alfred Mame, son of Amand, was destined to become very important. Paul Mame (1833-1903), a son of Alfred, was the head of the firm until 1900.

Business model

After having edited, together with his cousin Ernest Mame, from 1833 to 1845, some classics and a few devotional books, Alfred conceived and carried out, for the first time, the idea of uniting in the same publishing house, a certain number of workshops, grouping all the industries connected with the making of books: printing, binding, selling, and forwarding. By analogy with the great ironworks of Le Creusot, the Mame firm has been called the literary "Creusot".

Mame was also one of the principal owners of the paper-mills of La Haye-Descartes; and it could thus be said that a book, from the time when the rags are transformed into paper up to the moment when the final binding is put on, passed through a succession of workers, all of whom were connected with Mame. Daily, as early as 1865, this publishing house brought out from three to four thousand kilograms of books; it employed seven

hundred workers within and from four hundred to five hundred outside. Inspired by the social Catholic ideal, Alfred Mame established for his employees a pension fund for those over sixty, wholly maintained by the firm. He opened schools, which caused him to receive one of the ten thousand francs awards reserved for the "établissements modèles où régnaient au plus haut degré l'harmonie sociale et le bien-être des ouvriers". In 1874 Mame organized a system by which his working-men shared in the profits of the firm.

Books

It put into circulation books of devotion, and published the Bibliothèque de la jeunesse chrétienne. La Touraine was exhibited at the Universal Exhibition of 1855, and was in its day one of the finest of illustrated books. There were the Bible with illustrations from Gustave Doré; Vétault's Charlemagne; Wallon's St. Louis; the Chefs d'oeuvres de la langue française. Quantin, the publisher, calculated that, in 1883, the Mame publishing-house issued yearly six million volumes, of which three million were bound.

Thank you for contacting us.

Regards

David Evans

Magic Lanterns in the News

From Ryan Shepard
ryanshepard@gmail.com

Hi David:

Lantern slides play an interesting role in this archival detective story, which is on the front cover of DC's City Paper this week:

<https://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/news/article/21007233/independent-scholars-uncover-the-traumatic-treatments-lgbtq-people-suffered-at-st-elizabeths>

In December, they requested more than 85 digital copies of St. Elizabeths documents at the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Silver Spring. It took them 30 days to get a permit to visit the Otis Historical Archives at the museum, and, when they did, they had to view the images using a “magic lantern” device. “The box weighs a ton,” Felts quips about the device, which illuminates slides.

Not sure if these kind of tidbits are of interest for the E-Pub, but I can send along those I find, if so.

Regards,
Ryan Shepard



Hi Ryan

Well, I doubt if we would reprint the whole article, but it is interesting that such matters appeared on slides.

Yes, please do send on anything you come across. Did you notice that, in the magic lantern part you quote, in the actual article, the words ‘magic lantern’ are a hyperlink to the Smithsonian Institute’s magic lantern page, with a fine coloured image of a Tacoma garden by Asahel Curtis?

<https://siarchives.si.edu/blog/understanding-magic-lantern>

Regards

David Evans
dwinwoodevans@aol.com

Special Issue on Magic Lantern

Fonseca: Special Issue on Magic Lantern

The issue #16 (2018) of Fonseca – Journal of Communication is titled “Arqueología de los media y placas de linterna mágica” (Media archaeology and magic lantern slides). Among the seven thematic contributions, five articles are written by members of the A Million Pictures team. All articles are available in Spanish and English and are published in OpenAccess. You can access all articles via links the table of contents (2). Visible when you click on issue #16. With the bilingual publication, we hope to contribute to a dialogue between researchers in the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking lantern communities.

From Sarah Dellmann
S.Dellmann@uu.nl

Dear overseas colleagues:

Thanks for the Gazette and e-letter, which I always read with pleasure!

The issue #16 (2018) of Fonseca – Journal of Communication is titled “Arqueología de los media y placas de linterna mágica – Media archaeology and magic lantern slides”. It contains seven articles by researchers from various European countries. All articles are available in Spanish and English and are published in OpenAccess. You can access and download all articles for free via links the table of contents visible when available on the journal website (scroll to Número 16) <http://revistas.usal.es/index.php/2172-9077>. With this bilingual publication, we hope to contribute to a dialogue between researchers in the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking lantern communities.

See also: <http://a-million-pictures.wp.hum.uu.nl/fonseca-magic-lantern/>

All the best and enjoy the summer!
Sarah

Instructions for Using Vintage SPENCER LENS Co. Delineascope Model GK

From Richard Essig

ressig@verizon.net

I just obtained a Vintage SPENCER LENS Co. Delineascope Model GK Magic Lantern Slide Projector.

Trouble is I just don't know how to use it. Would you happen to have a manual or instructions or know where I can find some?

Thank you.
Richard

From David Evans

Dear Richard

Offhand, I am not familiar with that specific model, but in general a magic lantern is not hard to use. Obviously first you need a suitable illuminant. If your Delineascope still has its lamp and it works, then you are half way there. You need a magic lantern slide (or a collection of them), a slide carrier to a) fit the lantern and b) the slide. Next you need a screen, or just a light coloured wall will do. You may have to experiment about how far the lantern needs to be from the screen in order to be able to focus it and to get a reasonable size of picture. Then you can do a magic lantern show!

If we put your request in our next E-Publication (June) it may well be that one of our members has the original instruction sheet for your lantern. Also if you have any problems with it, do let us know and we will try to help.

Thank you for contacting us.
David Evans

DIRECTIONS for Operation and Care of SPENCER *Delineascope* Model GK

Instructions cover both types of equipment, 3 1/4" x 4" and 2" x 2", although only one condensing system and objective lens may be included in any one unit. Read instructions very carefully before operating the projector.



Thank you David for responding. It is really kind of you.

Okay I am totally new at this. I picked up about 16 magic lantern slides dealing with Mary Queen of Scots (one of my favorite historical personages) & then bought a SPENCER LENS Co. Delineascope Model GK Magic Lantern Slide Projector to show them. However I am having trouble with it.

Everything seems to be working with the Delineascope: when powered on by turning the switch, the light goes on and the fan starts. It is rather noisy & probably could use a cleaning. It comes with 2 slide carriers; 1 is too small and the other too large to fit my 3.25" slides. My impression is that when I load the slide into the large slide carrier, it just doesn't focus on the slide. So my best guess is I need a slide carrier that fits my 3.25" slides. Is it possible to get one?

Also I worry about the bulb when and if it gets burned out. I never saw anything like the one I'm using. Is it possible to find a replacement bulb also? But for now the bulb is not the problem issue.

I'm hoping once I find a slide carrier that fits my slides, everything else will fall into line.

These magic lanterns are very interesting. They say it is still one of the best projector systems around, with the colors - often hand painted - unsurpassed in color.

Thank you & your organization so much for any help you can render.

Richard

From David Evans

Hello Richard

What exactly is the problem with the slide carrier? Your slides I assume are 3 1/4" square - if so they are British (or at least British format). I am wondering if your slide carrier is made for American format slides - 3 1/4" x 4". If that is the problem then you need a British format carrier. I am sure I have a spare one you could have. The carrier should fit snugly in the lantern stage - there should be a spring-loaded plate that holds it in place. If it doesn't, you will have problems focusing. Maybe you could send me a couple of pictures of the area showing the problem.

Regarding the lamp, I am glad to hear it has a fan! Some don't and the slides can get very

continued next page

Delineascope continued

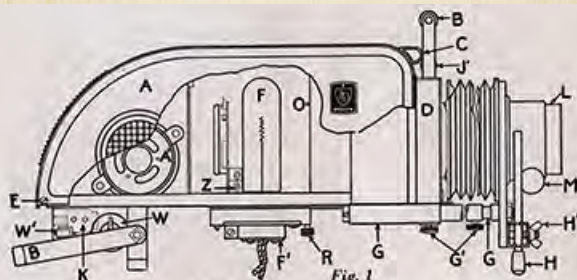


Fig. 1

- | | |
|---|--|
| A Lamp House | O' Slide Rails of 2" x 2" Slide Condenser Housing (Fig. 2) |
| A' Motor | P1 Large Condenser (Front) Double Convex (Fig. 3) |
| B Carrying Handles | P2 Heat-Absorbing Glass (Fig. 3) |
| C Handle of Lamp House Top | P3 Large Condenser (Rear) Plano-Convex (Fig. 3) |
| D Lantern Slide Carrier Opening | R Bulb Receptacle Set Screw |
| E Lamp House Hinges | S 2" x 2" Condenser Housing (Fig. 2) |
| F Lamp | S' Handle on Cover of Condenser Housing (Fig. 2) |
| F' Lamp Socket | T Cover of Condenser Housing (Fig. 2) |
| G Extension Rods (2 pair) | U1 Heat-Absorbing Glass (Fig. 2) |
| G' Extension Rod Set Screws | U2 Front Condenser (Double Convex) (Fig. 2) |
| H Adjustable Front Legs | U3 Middle Condenser (Concave Convex) (Fig. 2) |
| H' Front Leg Set Screws | U4 Rear Condenser (Concave Convex) (Fig. 2) |
| I 2" x 2" Slide Carrier (Fig. 4) | W Rheostat |
| I' 2 3/4" x 2 3/4" Slide Carrier (Fig. 4) | W' Switch |
| J 3 1/4" x 4" Slide Carrier (Fig. 4) | Z Lamp Setting Indicator |
| J' Set Screw for Lantern Slide Carrier | |
| K Connector for Lamp Cord | |
| L Objective Lens | |
| L' Objective Lens Cap | |
| M Rack and Pinion Focusing | |
| O Slide Rails for 2" x 2" Slide Condenser Housing | |

hot. If the lamp has a type number on it I may have a spare - I have a considerable collection of projector lamps. If it is blank, send me a picture of it and I may be able to identify it.

As you say, lanterns are very interesting. So many different models and designs from the 17th Century to the mid-20th. The slide colours can be amazing too.

Regards
David Evans

MEMBER

Request

Australia's Finest Silent Film

From David Donaldson

I am planning some form of centenary event for the first showing of this, generally regarded as Australia's finest silent film.

Could I call for any slides that may still exist from the US release? Erroneously, they may be labelled *The Sentimental Blonde* – these things do happen to slang words.



Arthur Tauchert, in *The Sentimental Bloke* (1918), portrayed an Aussie bloke of the period. He undergoes a change in what it means to be a man.

Thanks
David

Possible show *THE SENTIMENTAL BLOKE* in Adelaide late in 2018. Register interest, please contact:
David Donaldson
filmart@dodo.com.au



Old Bible Slides

From Joshua Brown

joshbrown@northstate.net

Hello - while cleaning our church, we found a large collection of hundreds of glass slides illustrating scenes from the Old and New Testament. They are a little smaller than 2" x 2" and are very thin plain glass, with no mounting or rim. There is no date on any of them, but by the packing material and handwriting I am guessing that they are pre-1900.

We have no equipment to show the slides or any good reason to keep them. Do you have any kind of a newsletter or way of contacting your members to see if anyone would be interested?

Any advice would be very helpful.

Joshua Brown, Pastor
Springfield Friends Meeting (Quakers)
High Point, NC

Hi, David -

The slides measure 1 5/8" x 2", which may be an odd size. About the cover glass, I'm not an expert and I can't tell for sure -- they surface is quite smooth on both sides, so there may be some type of cover glass. They are less than



1/8" thick, more like 1/16" but I don't have a caliper handy to give you an exact thickness. All the slides which I have seen are black and white or gray-toned.

I've attached a couple of photos so you can see roughly what we've got. The first one I scanned on our office scanner; the other photos are taken with my cell phone. The box the slides are all in is about 18" x 24" x 8". I haven't counted them, but there are quite a few.

Thanks!

- Josh Brown



continued next page

Old Bible Slides continued



Hello Joshua

Thank you for your enquiry. I am wondering what kind of slides these are. The most common size was 3 1/4" x 4", but there were various other sizes produced from the 1890s onward. You mention "very thin glass" with no mounts. Do they have cover glasses to protect the images from scratches etc? Could you send me a couple of photos of them?

Many religious slides are of wonderful quality and beautifully coloured, but the subject matter is not really useful to today's lantern showmen. Huge numbers of such slides were produced from the Victorian era though to the 1920s as at that time the magic lantern was a major tool for evangelists and church people, and a great many are still available today. Have a look on eBay. I suggest we put them on our next monthly E-Publication, as we do have one or two members who collect biblical themed slides. It is possible that the Quaker association might make them more attractive to collectors.

Regards
David Evans

Slides Give Glimpse Into Mattapoissett 100 Years Ago



<https://sippican.villagesoup.com/p/slides-give-glimpse-into-mattapoissett-100-years-ago/1223117>

By Georgia Sparling



A clambake and croquet match on the Mattapoissett waterfront at the turn of the 20th century.

Courtesy of: Mattapoissett Historical Society



Split Rock and Miss Pierce. The glacial rock is still located behind a house on Church Street. (Courtesy of: Mattapoissett Historical Society)



G.H. Hammond shovels snow on North Street. (Courtesy of: Mattapoissett Historical Society)

A Big Thank You to the following:

contributing to this months issue.

Joshua Brown
Djalma Correa
Sarah Dellmann
David Donaldson
Richard Essig
David & Lesley Evans
Mitsue Ikeda-Tanaka
Hal King
Garry Knapp
Ryan Shepard
Steve Woolf

Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

E-mail Larry



A Thank You to the Evans

From Mitsue Ikeda-Tanaka

mi3tsu2-0121e@rouge.plala.or.jp

Thanks to your kindness and generosity and consideration I was able to do my presentation at the MSL Convention in Victoria. I do not know how to express my gratitude to your help. It became a great monumental event in my previous Nishiki Kage-e of experiences.

I received a magic Lantern slide style card from Lesley and I felt very happy.

You two are gentle and delicate, you have fertile imagination and the soft heart like the child.!

I always feel happy when I think about you. Together with your wonderful collection.

I uploaded performance video clip and memorial photos files.

With thanks,
Best regards,

Mitsue



Images From "A Boy Catching Insects"



Link below to video clip of
"A Boy Catching Insects"

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gfLfS2W3IHGgvRKBAqTR-1r3alChq6Vv/view>